

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the following paragraph beginning at page 3, line 18 with the following:

According to the present invention there is provided a process for upgrading an ore or concentrate that contains metal sulphur minerals and gangue material. The process includes the stages of:

- a) selectively leaching the ore or concentrate using an ammoniacal solution containing ammonium carbonate that forms soluble metal ammine complexes;
- b) separating the solid and liquid phases formed in stage a) with the liquid phase forming a solution including soluble metal ammine complexes and the solid phase including at least in part the gangue material;
- c) removing ammonia and carbon dioxide from the liquid phase formed in step b) under conditions ~~so as to selectively precipitate the valuable metal(s) that are~~ selected to facilitate the precipitation of valuable metal(s) and minimise the sulphur content in the valuable metal(s) precipitated; and
- d) separating the solid and liquid phases formed in stage c) with the solid phase forming a more-concentrated source of valuable metal.

Please replace the following paragraph beginning at page 4, line 7 with the following:

An advantage provided by the present invention is that valuable metals precipitated in stage c), such as zinc, silver and copper can form a metal salt with an anion other than with a sulphur containing anion such as a sulphate. We have realized that the conditions under which the valuable metal(s) are precipitated impacts on whether the valuable metal(s) can be precipitated as a salt with an anion other than a sulphur containing anion. This has major ramifications because the minimization of sulphur in the precipitate provides significant benefits in downstream processes.